

# SIR GEORGE WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY

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# NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## NEW REGISTRATION PROCEDURE AT S.G.W.U.

Sir George Williams University has developed a registration plan which should go a long way toward eliminating the frustrations of students unable to attend the classes of their choice because of closed sections.

Basically the plan involves an early selection of courses by the student, and a register-by-mail option. In this area, the University will now use computers for both storage and data recovery, and as a tool for planning.

By mid-October a questionnaire is to be mailed to each student in the day division of the University. The student will be asked to list the courses for which he intends to register in the 1969-70 academic year, and to return the questionnaire promptly. Information derived from the returned questionnaires should enable department chairman to make better plans for the coming year in an attempt to meet the expressed wishes of the students. Early in the spring a registration contract is to be mailed to each student, as before. By this time, a major part of the scheduling and room allocation will have been completed and a tentative timetable should be available. After consulting with a professor from the department of his choice, the student will be required to list his final selection of courses for the next year. Any student who fails a course or who, for some reason, does not have a clear academic record, may have to register in person at the usual time.

Although the University has not solved the fundamental problems of how to find the finances, facilities, and the staff necessary to meet the increasing needs of increasing numbers of students, it has developed a plan which should make it possible to deploy existing resources to better advantage.

The registration period just completed was operationally efficient. "There were no endless queues or six to eight-hour delays," says Registrar Donald L. Peets. "It was effective for most students." However, many students with low registration priority, particularly those in second year, had great difficulty in arranging a satisfactory program of studies.



Sir George has a long tradition of wide option on course selection by students, particularly in the faculty of Arts. It has always been regretted that the choice of courses has been restricted, not as a matter of policy, but because of operational necessity. Constructing a course schedule and allocating classrooms in advance of registration has the obvious advantage of providing for maximum use of space, but it presents the disadvantages of restricting choice and reducing flexibility. However, if the choices of the students were known at an early date and with a high degree of accuracy, it should be possible to pre-schedule courses without limiting selection, and the need for flexibility would be reduced.

Registrar Peets says that success of the plan depends on wholehearted cooperation from students and faculty. He is optimistic because of the many advantages to everyone.

Because of special problems in the evening division, it is doubtful if the plan could be applied to its registration next year. However, it is hoped that it can be implemented in most faculties for day division students.

From the office of: Malcolm Stone,  
Information Officer

NOTE: For further information contact Registrar Donald L. Peets  
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